

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 02604 270718Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 FRB-01 OMB-01 L-03
H-02 ITC-01 /052 W
-----066469 271506Z /41

R 270658Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7228
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS TAIPEI 02604

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BDIS, BTRA, TW
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM CHAIRMAN OF MANHATTAN
- INDUSTRIES: CONSTITUENT TRAVEL - SENATOR JAVITS

REF: A) STATE 97369 B) STATE 96820

1. LAURENCE LEEDS, JR. OF MANHATTAN INDUSTRIES MET WITH
COMMATT APRIL 17 TO DISCUSS SUSPENSION OR CANCELLATION
OF FREE QUOTA FOR LADIES' BLOUSES PRODUCED BY GENERAL
GARMENTS.

2. ON APRIL 18 COMMATT RAISED THIS MATTER WITH H.K. SHAO,
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF BOARD OF FOREIGN TRADE. SUSPENSION
OF FREE QUOTA FOR GENERAL GARMENTS WAS RESULT OF SERIOUS
IRREGULARITIES IN BIDDING PROCEDURES FOR FREE QUOTA WHICH
IS ADMINISTERED BY TAIWAN TEXTILE FEDERATION. H.K. SHAO
AGREED THAT 22,200 DOZEN LADIES' BLOUSES OBTAINED IN
FEB-MARCH BIDDING FOR FREE QUOTA COULD BE SHIPPED TO
MANHATTAN. HOWEVER, NOTHING COULD BE DONE ABOUT PENDING
ORDER OF 30,000 DOZEN LADIES' BLOUSES SCHEDULED TO BE
BID ON BY GENERAL GARMENTS IN APRIL AND DELIVERED TO
MANHATTAN IN SUMMER/FALL. FOR THIS TO BE DONE, THE
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APRIL 1 SUSPENSION OF GENERAL GARMENTS RIGHT TO
PARTICIPATE IN BIDDING WOULD HAVE TO BE REVOKED BY THE
BOFT AND SERIOUSNESS OF CHARGES AGAINST THE ROC COMPANY
PRECLUDED ANY SUCH ACTION. H.K. SHAO SAID THAT GENERAL
GARMENTS COULD STILL USE ITS BASIC QUOTA TO FULFILL THE
30,000 DOZEN ORDER FROM MANHATTAN.

3. COMMATT INFORMED MR. LEEDS OF THESE DISCUSSIONS. ACCORDING TO LEEDS, GENERAL GARMENTS HAD ALREADY EXHAUSTED ITS BASIC QUOTA. WHILE MR. LEEDS WAS NOT ENTIRELY SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS, HE CONCLUDED THAT MANHATTAN INDUSTRIES HAD GOTTEN "HALF OF THE LOAF".

4. MR. LEEDS WAS ADVISED THAT EMBASSY WAS WILLING TO PURSUE MATTER FURTHER AND AT HIGHER LEVEL, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THAT SUSPENSION COULD BE REVOKED. HE SAID HE WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH COMMATT IF FURTHER APPROACH NECESSARY.

5. DOUGLAS HSU OF FAR EASTERN TEXTILES (LICENSEE OF MANHATTAN INDUSTRIES) WAS CONTACTED BY COMMATT ON APRIL 25 AND VERIFICATION OBTAINED THAT NOTHING FURTHER WAS REQUIRED ON PART OF EMBASSY. UNGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TAIPEI02604
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780180-0436
Format: TEL
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978048/aaaaagem.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 77ea34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 97369, 78 STATE 96820
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3036057
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM CHAIRMAN OF MANHATTAN - INDUSTRIES: CONSTITUENT TRAVEL - SENATOR JAVITS
TAGS: BDIS, BTRA, TW
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/77ea34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014